

## Message Text

SECRET

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53

ACTION DLOS-06

INFO OCT-01 NEA-10 IO-14 ISO-00 CG-00 CEQ-02 CIAE-00

COA-02 COME-00 DODE-00 EB-11 EPA-04 INR-10 L-03

NSF-04 NSC-07 NSAE-00 PM-07 RSC-01 SCI-06 SS-20 SP-03

FEA-02 DOTE-00 ACDA-19 AEC-11 AGR-20 FMC-04 INT-08

JUSE-00 OMB-01 SSO-00 NSCE-00 USIE-00 INRE-00 H-03

PA-04 PRS-01 AF-10 ARA-16 EA-11 EUR-25 OIC-04 DRC-01

/251 W

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O R 161640Z APR 74

FM AMEMBASSY ATHENS

TO SECSTATE WASHDC IMMEDIATE 3081

INFO AMEMBASSY ANKARA IMMEDIATE

AMEM ASSY NICOSIA

AMCONSUL THESSALONIKI

USMISSION GENEVA

USMISSION NATO

USMISSION USUN NEW YORK

S E C R E T ATHENS 2280

E.O. 11652: GDS

TAGS: PBOR, PFOR, TU, GR

SUBJECT: LAW OF THE SEA: CONSULTATIONS IN ATHENS

REF: A. STATE 074628

B. ANKARA 2813

C. ATHENS 2271

1 WHILE LOS OFFICIALS ATHENS WOULD PROBABLY WELCOME  
OPPORTUNITY CONSULT WITH HIGH-LEVEL US DELEGATION ON  
STRAITS AND NAVIGATION ISSUES, WE TEND AGREE WITH ANKARA  
(REFTEL B) THAT PURPOSE OF MISSION COULD BE CONSTRUED BY  
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CERTAIN QUARTERS AS ROOTED IN AEGEAN OIL CONTROVERSY. (HOWEVER,

EMBASSY IN ITS EARLIER SUGGESTION FOR EXPERT MEETINGS HAD ASSUMED VISITS BOTH PLACES MIGHT OBVIATE PROBLEMS SUCH AS THOSE REFERRED TO BY ANKARA.) IF DEPARTMENT BELIEVES HOWEVER, AS EMBASSY DOES, SUCH CONSULTATIONS CAN BE USEFUL IN ADVANCING U.S. INTEREST IN REACHING MUTUALLY ACCEPTABLE POSITION ON STRATIS, EMBASSY SUGGESTS CONVERSATIONS IN ATHENS BE SCHEDULED AS PART OF SERIES IN MEDITERRANEAN INCLUDING, FOR EXAMPLE, SPAIN AND ITALY. ADDITIONALLY, WE BELIEVE IT WOULD BE HELPFUL TO HAVE ADVANCE PRESS RELEASE ON VISIT, CLEARLY DELINEATING ITS CONSULTATIVE AND EXPLORATORY CHARACTER WITH FOCUS ON LOS CONFERENCE BROADLY.

2. AS DEPARTMENT AWARE FROM RECENT EMBASSY REPORTS, THERE APPEARS TO BE PROSPECT OF SIGNIFICANT CHANGES IN GOG. INTELLIGENCE REPORTS SUGGEST LIKELIHOOD OF NEW MINISTER OF FOREIGN AFFAIRS. IN ANY CASE, AT THIS JUNCTURE IT IS ONLY PRUDENT TO ASSUME GOG IS PROBABLY NOT IN POSITION TO SPEAK WITH ONE VOICE ON SUCH SENSITIVE ISSUES AS STRAITS AND TERRITORIAL SEA. OTHER COMPONENTS OF GOVERNMENT -- ESPECIALLY MILITARY -- HAVE THEIR OWN VIEWS ON THESE MATTERS AS RESULT AEGEAN OIL DISCOVERIES. PRESUMABLY ULTIMATE GOG POSITION WILL ONLY BE DEVELOPED AFTER OIL DISCOVERY RESULTS SORTED OUT. REFLECTION OF THIS CONCLUSION PROBABLY LIES BEHIND RECENT PRONOUNCEMENT GOG REP IN NATO COUNCIL THREATENING VETO IF STRATIS ISSUE PLACED ON AGENDA NATO CONSULTATIONS ON LOS.

3. IN VIEW OF ANKARA'S 2813 AND FOREGOING EMBASSY WILL DEFER APPROACH GOG REQUESTED REFTEL A PENDING FURTHER INSTRUCTIONS.  
TASCA

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NNN

## Message Attributes

**Automatic Decaptioning:** X  
**Capture Date:** 01 JAN 1994  
**Channel Indicators:** n/a  
**Current Classification:** UNCLASSIFIED  
**Concepts:** LAW OF THE SEA, MEETING DELEGATIONS, STRAITS, DIPLOMATIC DISCUSSIONS  
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**Decaption Date:** 01 JAN 1960  
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**Disposition Approved on Date:**  
**Disposition Authority:** cunninfx  
**Disposition Case Number:** n/a  
**Disposition Comment:** 25 YEAR REVIEW  
**Disposition Date:** 28 MAY 2004  
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**Disposition History:** n/a  
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